

The Evening World

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THE BUTTER-IN.

THE hunger-striker in jail turns upon the lady who screams in the street and accuses her of "buttering in and spoiling his effect." Let him console himself. Public disgust at the whole spectacle is quite impartial.

New Yorkers deeply sympathize with the residents of Columbus Park who protested against the visitation of May-day orators. "We do not want these disturbers bringing lazy, idle people here to make trouble. We do not want our children listening to their talk."

The gang that marched up Broadway from the May-day meeting yesterday, cursing and blaspheming, insulting women and reviling churches, was a disgrace to the city and an outrage to decent citizenship. To suggest that the leaders of such a crew speak for anybody but themselves or for any purpose higher than to exploit their own contemptible vanity is to insult intelligence.

Labor wants none of them. The public turns sick at the mention of them. What they think of each other no one cares. The I. W. W. is itself the most insufferable "butter-in" that ever afflicted the city.

As to war taxes—watchful waiting is the word.

FORT LEE FERRY FARES.

A MOVE for a three-cent fare on the Fort Lee Ferry, which crosses the river from the foot of West One Hundred and Thirtieth street, has at last secured the attention of the New York Board of Aldermen, who promise to have the Board of Estimate make an investigation.

The Public Service Corporation, which runs most of the trolley lines, gas and electric light plants in New Jersey, operates the ferry through a subsidiary company. So far the controlling corporation has turned a deaf ear to petitions for a reduction of fares.

By renting its water front at West One Hundred and Thirtieth street to the Ferry Company for a terminal the city profits to the extent of five per cent. of the gross receipts—which now represents an income of \$15,000 to the municipal exchequer. If the ferry fare were reduced to three cents the city would get \$9,000—reckoning on present income.

On the other hand, experience proves that reducing the cost of commuters' transportation results in swift benefit to the communities affected, increases travel and multiplies receipts. It is claimed, furthermore, that business in the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street district is sure to profit by an influx of customers from New Jersey to a degree that would compensate the city many times over for the loss of \$6,000 ferriage income.

Nor is it certain that even the \$6,000 sacrifice need be permanent. The lease of the ferry terminal property provides that if the business of the ferry company increases to between \$100,000 and \$150,000 the city shall receive six and one-half per cent. of gross receipts, and that if it exceeds \$450,000 the city shall receive seven per cent. The ferry's annual gross receipts have already increased to about \$300,000.

It would seem, therefore, that if decreased fares mean increased business, the city in every respect stands to gain in the future more than it might lose in the immediate present. The Board of Estimate should go into the matter thoroughly. It is no better policy for city than for individual to be a penny wise and a pound foolish.

Everybody halts but Villa.

A PICKPOCKET COMBINE.

HOW is it that a penniless pickpocket caught in the act, arrested, booked for trial, can immediately command bail, lawyers, an elaborate defense, all of which cost money? The answer is this: simple to those who know. Thieves who do regular business in this town have strong combinations for mutual benefit and protection—combinations with directors, counsel and plenty of funds.

After six years of experience in the Court of General Sessions, in the course of which he has presided at more than one thousand criminal trials, Judge Edward Swann has prepared a series of articles on crime in New York. His discussion of the Pickpocket Syndicate in *The Sunday World Magazine* to-morrow gives an amazing glimpse into the clever methods by which crook-protectors frame up alibis and work on the sympathies of complainants. When the pickpocket is in trouble the syndicate can furnish a weeping mother, a pathetic wife and baby, cash to buy off the complainant, or, if all else fails, a substitute to serve a sentence.

That such expensively contrived schemes to save criminals from justice point to organization backed by brains and money nobody can doubt after reading Judge Swann's article. He makes a strong plea for legislation which will give criminal procedure a better chance to cut through the falsities of trumped-up defense.

May's first night was a frost.

Letters From the People

Saw Santa Ana at Staten Island.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

I read with interest Albert Payson Terhune's article No. 5, in "The Story of Our First War With Mexico," in which he says "old Staten Islanders may remember Santa Ana."

I first saw the "old warrior," Santa Ana, on Pavilion Hill, Tompkinsville, S. I., with his side partner, Dr. Gabor

Wanaghe, one time Surgeon-General of the Mexican army; and also with him was O'Donovan Rossa, Santa

Ana at that time was trying to induce an emigration of the Irish to Mexico.

His speech was read by his counsel, Thomas C. Vermilyea (Santa Ana could not speak English). He inter-

posed a prominent physician in his audience to the amount of \$14,000.

Santa Ana and Vermilyea and his

with lived well on this doctor's money.

for quite a while at New Brighton, S. I. Santa Ana gave as collateral security for the loan of \$15,000 certain Mexican bonds (only good as works of art) and a building on the Island of St. Thomas, W. I.

An earthquake put the building down and out. So much for the "old warrior's" adventures on Staten Island.

New Brighton, S. I. COLLINS.

In 1887.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

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The Latest

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By Maurice Ketten



The Jarr Family

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